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U.S. Embassy Hosts U.S. Elections Reception



U.S. Embassy staff explains U.S. elections process



Guests watch U.S. elections results.

The U.S. Embassy in Port Moresby hosted a reception at the Chief of Mission Residence to watch the live 2012 U.S. election results on November 7, 2012. Our guests included a wide variety of groups ranging from host government senior politicians and members of the diplomatic corps to journalists and university students.

Throughout the event, Embassy representatives explained how elections are carried out in the United States. Topics of interest included the role of the media, election monitoring, the Electoral College, the meaning of swing states, and campaign platforms. Guests received materials containing the candidates' biographies, a sample voting ballot, and political party promotional items. Three television screens showed constant updates from different news sources. Portable computers connected to the Internet also allowed participants to visit interactive websites covering the U.S. elections. There were maps showing the electoral votes allotted to each state and tally posters displayed throughout the residence sparking discussions. Following the official elections results, re-electing President Barack Obama to a second term, Chargé d'Affaires Bryan Hunt gave remarks highlighting the democratic values exemplified in free and fair elections.

Prior to the election watch reception, the Public Affairs team visited secondary school students and gave guest lectures at universities to discuss the U.S. electoral system and the 2012 U.S. election process.